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South Mountain freeway meeting today

by **Colleen Sparks** - Apr. 17, 2008 06:31 AM
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A citizens group will meet Thursday night to talk about how the proposed South Mountain Freeway would change the landscape in Ahwatukee Foothills and in the West Valley.

The South Mountain Citizens Advisory Team will meet at 6 p.m. in the Student Union Hall at South Mountain Community College, 7050 S. 24th St in South Phoenix. The group meets for dinner at 5:30 there.

Two to three "large road cuts" would need to be made through ridge lines in the south and southwestern parts of South Mountain bordering the Gila River Indian Community, according to the latest freeway proposal. The freeway could also affect vegetation and wildlife and would displace homes, according to an Arizona Department of Transportation report.

The freeway would run along the Pecos Road alignment in Ahwatukee and cut through South Mountain Park.

The citizens group will eventually make a recommendation on whether it thinks the freeway should be built.